

## Press Release

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### **UCA Alumnus Named Board Chairman of Science & Technology Agency**

Jerry L. Webster, a 1972 graduate of the University of Central Arkansas, has been named Chairman of the Governor-appointed Arkansas Science & Technology Authority, an honored position once held by UCA President Dr. Winfred L. Thompson, who was a charter member of the Authority's Board in 1983, and Chairman in 1988. It was during their concurrent service to this Board that Mr. Webster and Dr. Thompson forged working relations, later prompting Webster's appointment to the committee that planned the activities for Dr. Thompson's Investiture as UCA President.

Mr. Webster has served on the Authority's Board of Directors since 1987, and was an appointee of then-Governor Bill Clinton. He has been an active participant on the Authority's Investment Committee, lending his vast experience in community development. This includes more than fifteen years in the planning, development, financing, and sales of commercial real estate. The Westbury Park Apartments in Conway, for example, is one of the properties he developed. He is currently self employed as a Commercial Real Estate Broker and President of his own company, The Webster Corporation. Prior to venturing out on his own, Webster served as Deputy Director of the Arkansas Housing Development Agency and Executive Director of the Housing Development Corporation of Arkansas.

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Mr. Webster graduated from UCA in 1972 with a B.S. degree in psychology and business and an M.S. in Counselor Education in 1974. A native of Holly Grove, Arkansas, Mr. Webster currently makes his home in Little Rock with wife, Etta, and their six year old daughter, B.J..

The Arkansas Science & Technology Authority is an independent state agency created in 1983 to bring the benefits of science and technology to the people and state of Arkansas. The Authority carries out this mission through its two main program areas - research and development. More specifically, the Authority funds competitive basic and applied research projects, technology development and technology transfer innovations and processes, and technology-based businesses, in an effort to help the state of Arkansas compete in a demanding global economy. The Authority also engages in the promotion and support of science, engineering, and mathematics education to improve the overall quality of Arkansas' workforce.